

flower is quite different in color, and there is much less pubescence on the foliage. These early leaves, as in most violets, are borne on very short petioles, giving the plant a tufted appearance, and causing the flowers to stand out prominently. When the new leaves develop they speedily attain large dimensions, completely overtopping the vernal leaves and the few remaining flowers, so that the plant is really a remarkable sight throughout the greater part of the summer, with two distinct masses of foliage. The cleistogamous flowers are not produced, in cultivation at least, in the same abundance as those of *V. palmata*, so that my plants have not spread to any extent beyond the spot in which they were originally set out.

I wish to express my obligation to Miss Angell for the courtesies she has shown in furnishing notes and material, and to her is due the chief credit of its recognition as a distinct species. It grows in great abundance in tracts of open woodland in the Orange mountains, being associated with *V. palmata* there.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM.

### SHORTER NOTES

ANIMAL MYCOPHAGISTS.—I noticed last summer a large sphingid larva feeding with evident relish upon a plant of *Polyporus flavo-virens* in the woods near Blacksburg, Virginia. It is a matter of common observation that flies, snails, chipmunks and various other animals that inhabit the woods are fond of mushrooms, but it was rather surprising to find a green tomato-worm eating a yellowish-brown and rather tough fungus. Dr. Charles H. Peck in his forty-third report speaks of seeing large tufts of *Armillaria mellea* in the Adirondacks without pilei, which, he thinks, were eaten by deer. It is well known that mushrooms are sometimes eaten by cows, particularly in late summer when the pastures become dry. An interesting case of mycophagy was recently brought to my attention by Mr. M. W. Gorman, of Portland, Oregon, who has botanized considerably in Alaska. He says that in the region west of the Yukon River the small red, or "pine," squirrel lives during the winter upon

the seeds of *Picea alba* and mushrooms. The latter are collected in large quantities during the summer and placed in the forks of branches and other secure spots above the ground to dry. Three different kinds of brownish-colored agarics were noticed by Mr. Gorman. The squirrels, he says, visit their collections every day, even in the coldest weather.

W. A. MURRILL.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1901

The meeting of November 27 was held at the College of Pharmacy at 8 P. M., President Brown in the chair and twenty persons present.

The treasurer reported the names of members delinquent in payment of dues during three years past, and it was voted that he be directed to notify members more than two years in arrears that their names would be dropped from the roll in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution unless payment be made before the next annual meeting.

The scientific program consisted of the announced paper by Dr. W. A. Murrill on "The new International Botanical Association." The speaker gave an illustrated account of the meetings held in Geneva in August and described the organization and aims of the *Association internationale des Botanistes*.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1901

The meeting was held at the Museum of the New York Botanical Garden, with Vice-President Rusby in the chair. Seventeen persons were present.

Miss Nellie Hewins, Maspeth, L. I., and Miss Rosina J. Renert, 98 East 114th Street, New York City, were elected to membership.

The first paper on the scientific program was by Professor L. M. Underwood on "The Genus *Gleichenia*." This was illustrated by specimens and sketches, showing the principal natural types. The paper will be published in full in an early number of the *Bulletin*.